

## **News Release**

## IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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## IDWR LAUNCHES WEB SITE FOR IDAHO GEOTHERMAL INFORMATION

For Immediate Release Boise, Idaho - Oct. 28, 2002 For Media Information Contact: Dick Larsen - (208) 327-7933

A special Internet web site has been created to supply Idahoans with a wide variety of information and data about geothermal resources in the state, the Idaho Department of Water Resources announced today.

The site provides visitors access to a wealth of geothermal information including an interactive mapping program that can pinpoint and provide data about geothermal resources around the state. A new technical report on geothermal potential at some selected sites in Idaho is also available via the web site.

The Internet address for the web site is: www.idahogeothermal.org.

Idaho ranks third in the nation for the number of active geothermal springs, especially the central and southern parts of the state where the majority of the geothermal wells and springs are found. Water temperatures in Idaho's geothermal resources range from 86 to about 400 degrees Farenheit.

The Idaho capital is the only state capital in the nation heated by geothermal heating. Various other buildings on the capital mall and throughout the city of Boise are also heated with geothermal water.

Many homes in the Warm Springs area of Boise are also heated with geothermal. The Boise Warm Springs Water District was the first of its kind in the country when it was founded in 1892. The state now has eight distinct geothermal district heating systems

The IDWR Geothermal Database for Idaho has over 2,600 wells and springs with water temperatures of 68 degrees Fahrenheit (F) or higher. There are 745 wells and 308 springs whose temperatures are greater than 85 degrees F. The database also contains the available information for each entry such as location, well depth, discharge, spring name, etc.

For more information about the site or geothermal resources around the state contact Ken Neely or Helen Harrington at 327-7900.